two instalments to Gujarat Vishwakosh Trust, Ahmedabad for the publication of Gujarati Vishwakosh (Vols. V & VI) in Gujarati language during the financial years 1993-94 and 1995-96 under the scheme of financial assistance for publication and purchase of books in Indian languages and in English.

(c) The Government have formulated the following schemes including schemes to maintain autonomous bodies/subordinate offices under the Ministry of Human Resource Development for the purpose of development of Hindi & other Indian languages including Gujarati :-

(i) Financial assistance to voluntary organisation for promotion of Hindi.

(ii) Appointment and Training of Hindi teachers in Non-Hindi speaking States/UTs.

(iii) Financial assistance for publication/ purchase of books in Indian languages and in English

(iv) Financial assistance to voluntary organisations for selected promotional activities relating to Indian languages (other than Hindi, Sanskrit, Urdu and Sindhi).

(v) Scheme of production of University level books in Hindi and in regional languages.

(vi) Appointment and Training of Modern Indian Language teachers in Hindi speaking States/ UTs.

(vii) Central Hindi Directorate, New Delhi, a subordinate office is engaged in the development of Hindi as link language though correspondence courses and production of bi-lingual and trilingual dictionaries etc.

(viii) Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology, New Delhi, a subordinate office is engaged in the evolution of Scientific and technical terminology in Hindi and regional languages.

(ix) Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra, an autonomous organisation is engaged in importing teacher's training for in-service teachers in non-Hindi speaking States/UTs etc.

(x) Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, a subordinate office is engaged in developmental programmes for Indian languages.

(xi) The National Book Trust, India, an autonomous organisation is stepping up its publication programme in Gujarati and Hindi for the development of these languages in Gujarat.

[English]

Bye-Passes in Kerala

2778. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether several proposals for bye-passes are pending in connection with National Highway No. 49 from Cochin to Madurai in Cochin-Neridmangalam sector, give details thereof;

(b) the stage of fixation of alignment of this highway in the sector running through Kerala;

(c) the cause of delay in finalising alignment and undertaking works of bye-passes: and

(d) the developments planned in the above sector?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) . (a) No, Sir

(b) The alignment proposal of the National Highway-49 in Kerala is yet to be submitted by the State P.W.D

(c) The delay in finalisation of alignment is mainly due to hilly terrains

(d) The development of NH-49 in Kerala would be considered after finalisation of the alignment.

[Translation]

Passport offices in Delhi

2779. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the number of existing passport offices in the National Capital Region of Delhi;

(b) the number of passports issued by these offices during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the average time taken by these offices in issuing passports;

(d) the number of applications pending for passports in these offices for more than six months; and

(e) the steps taken or likely to be taken by the Government to dispose of these applications?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) At present, there is one Passport Office in the National Capital Region of Delhi viz. Regional Passport Office, Delhi. Two more are in the process of being established, respectively in Ghaziabad and Gurgaon.

(b) The number of passports issued by RPO, Delhi during the last three years is as follows :

Year	1993	1994	1995
No. of Passports Issued	128186	108249	106807